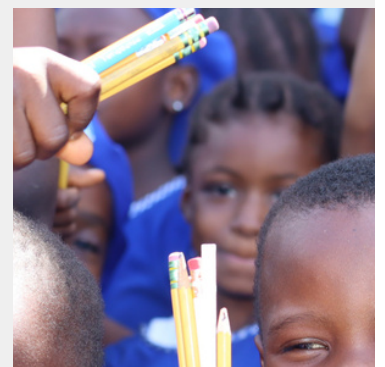


2023

Annual Report

Develop Africa

Changing Lives,
Nations and
Destinies since 2006



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Dear Friends and Supporters of Develop Africa,

As we reflect on the strides taken and the impact achieved throughout 2023, I am honored to share with you the journey of transformation and empowerment made possible through your unwavering support and dedication.

At Develop Africa, our mission of "changing lives, nations and destinies" is not just a statement; it's a commitment engrained in every endeavor we undertake. We remain steadfast in our dedication to facilitate meaningful and sustainable development across Africa.

Thanks to your generosity throughout this year, we have fulfilled our vision by providing essential resources such as school supplies, scholarships, solar lights, mosquito nets, and vocational training. These fundamental provisions have acted as catalysts, empowering countless individuals to rise above the limitations of poverty and lack of access to education.

The impact of your contributions extends far beyond the immediate recipients. Collectively, we foster self-sufficiency and resilience by investing in these individuals' education and empowerment. As these individuals and families thrive, they become agents of change within their communities, contributing to the progress and advancement of their nations.

We have witnessed the transformative power of education, the protection provided by necessities, and the hope instilled through skill development. Through these means, we are building a brighter future for Africa, one empowered individual at a time.

As we look forward, our commitment to sustainable development remains unwavering. We are continually exploring innovative approaches to address the evolving needs of our communities, ensuring that our efforts have a lasting and meaningful impact.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you who has contributed time, resources, and dedication to our cause. Your support has been instrumental in bringing about positive change in the lives of many.

Together, we are transforming lives, shaping destinies, and paving the way for a future where communities thrive, nations prosper, and the world is united in progress.

Thank you for being integral to our journey toward a better tomorrow.

Cordially and with warmest regards,

Sylvester

Sylvester Renner
President

Letter from the President



Sylvester Renner
President, Develop Africa





Mission and Overview

Develop Africa is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering meaningful and sustainable development across Africa. Through our initiatives, we offer essential resources such as school supplies, scholarships, solar lights (enabling children to study after dark), mosquito nets (protecting them from malaria), and computer/vocational training. These provisions aim to empower individuals, enabling them to achieve self-sufficiency and transcend the poverty cycle.



By strengthening individuals and families, we believe in catalyzing contributions to community, national, and global advancement. Together, these empowered individuals form the bedrock of progress, actively shaping positive change on local and international scales.



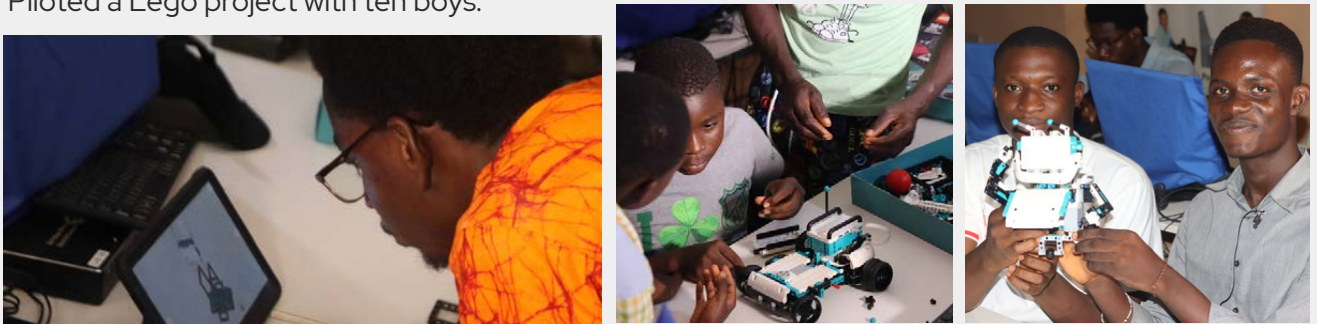
Key Highlights of the Year

Impact Stories and Successes

Building & Equipping Kamawornie Nursery School with Furniture and learning materials



Piloted a Lego project with ten boys.



Completed 12 Mentoring Sessions for Boys and Girls



Monitoring visit from the Ministry of Education to DASL operational areas in Bo and Kamawornie



School Support Distribution

In 2023, 142 children from nursery school through Senior Secondary School from Bo, Kamawornie, Makeni, and Freetown received comprehensive school support, ensuring they had access to quality education. The support included the provision of essential items such as books, school supplies, and tuition assistance.



61 Drums full of books, teacher supplies, electronics, and school supplies were shipped to Sierra Leone in 2023. The drums were filled with donated school supplies from around the world.



3 students received vocational training support covering their school fees for the 2022-2023 academic year.

In the 2022-2023 school year, Develop Africa provided support for the WASSCE exam to 8 students. The West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) is a standardized test for senior secondary school students in West Africa.

This assistance ensures that these older students, upon successful completion of the exam, have the opportunity to advance to higher education or pursue other career paths.

11 students received college tuition support for the 2022- 2023 school year.



Child Sponsorship Program

Child sponsorship is **the best way to impact or change a life in Africa** and bring hope to the entire community. When individuals and families are strengthened, they can contribute toward sustainable development in their communities and Africa.



Sponsoring a child provides the continuity of impact that is needed - impacting the growth and development of children. The critical area of empowerment that we focus on is education. When you sponsor a child, your funds support your child's education. Providing educational support is a tested and proven way to impact lives by providing the vital knowledge and skills that the child needs to grow up, become independent and self-sufficient, and contribute to their community and national and global development.



In 2023, there were 95 child sponsorships. These sponsors and sponsored children exchanged photos, letters, and videos. Sometimes, the sponsors sent additional care packages or support. One sponsor even traveled to Sierra Leone to meet her sponsored child.



Learn more about the child sponsorship program at www.developafrica.org/child-sponsorship



Impact Assessment

Testimonials

Continued support provides insecticide-treated nets to families in Sierra Leone, shielding them from mosquito bites. Joseph, a 4th grader who loves math and dreams of becoming a doctor, benefits from these nets. Help save lives by donating \$12 to provide a family with a protective mosquito net.



Joseph Can Sleep Mosquito-Free

Ibarray's Thankful For After School Classes For Her Daughter



Ibarray, a parent from Kamawornie Village, expressed gratitude to Develop Africa for offering free supplementary classes, benefiting students like her daughter Marie. These afterschool sessions foster an environment for open discussion and support, positively impacting students' education and allowing them to address personal issues comfortably. Your generosity fuels this impactful initiative.

Over 20,000 children, youths, and adults in 10 countries have received school supplies, tuition/scholarships, computer / vocational training, microfinance loans, mosquito nets, disaster relief, and miscellaneous support since 2006.



Mariatu's Business Is Growing Thanks To A Microfinance Loan



Generous donor support helps provide microfinance loans, which empower small businesses like Mariatu's. The goal of interest-free microfinance loans is to provide parents/guardians with the ability to support their families. Mariatu sells fries/snacks and candies at a primary school in her community. Through her business, she can support her kids, and two of her kids are part of the sponsorship program.

Thanks in part to your support, more children and young adults are getting the computer training they need for success in today's technology-driven environment. Hawa & Mohamed are two of the students who recently received a certificate of completion for Intro to Computers and Microsoft Office- Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint/Presentation, Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Access/Database, and Microsoft Internet Browser.

Empowering Futures Through Computer Training



Impact Assessment Report

In 2023, impact assessments were conducted in Freetown and Bo, respectively, with the aim of measuring progress toward achieving the project goal by evaluating key project objectives. The assessments unveiled noteworthy advancements in reaching the project goals.

Project's objective

Granting scholarship assistance for the payment of school fees and provision of learning materials to less privileged children and community schools.

Enhancing the well-being of vulnerable and underprivileged children in deprived communities.

Advocating for and advancing primary education for vulnerable and underprivileged children in deprived communities.

Promoting the education of girls within their communities, thereby mitigating the high rate of illiteracy among girls.



2022/2023 Boys and Girls Mentoring Evaluation

A questionnaire specifically tailored to address project objectives was developed, and data were gathered from beneficiaries aged 18 and older, or from the parents/guardians of beneficiaries below 18 years of age.

Monthly Beneficiary Mentoring - Freetown Beneficiaries

Between January 2022 and March 2023, a series of nine mentoring sessions were organized for sixty beneficiaries (35 boys and 25 girls) enrolled in the child scholarship program. The sessions covered diverse topics aimed at fostering the personal and educational development of the beneficiaries. Evaluation questions centered around the impact of various discussion topics, the effectiveness of guest speakers' deliverables, and the attributes of the mentoring facilitators.

Analysis of fifty-four questionnaires revealed that the mentoring program had a positive impact on the lives of at least fifty (50) mentees. The table below provides details of the questions asked and the corresponding responses:

Questions	Number of Mentees who strongly disagree	Number of Mentees who disagree	Number of Mentees who agree	Number of Mentees who strongly agree
The mentoring program has helped me build positive self-esteem.	0	0	4	50
My mentor demonstrated a reasonable interest/concern toward me.	0	0	11	43
Overall, my mentor was an asset and a benefit to me.	0	0	4	50
I feel more confident about my career path due to the mentoring.	0	0	12	40
The guest speakers discussed the mentoring topic well.	0	1	5	48



Partnerships and Collaborations



Computer Equipment for Kids



Develop Africa is delighted to have Mark and Computer Equipment for Kids as one of our partners. We have worked together now for several years. We have recycled hundreds of items and sent them to organizations, youths, and adults in Africa. Over the years, we have sent computers, tablets, monitors, and other devices, such as network hubs, modems, monitors, mice, etc., to Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

The resources we jointly provided now benefit hundreds of youths in Africa last year. Because of him, many youths in Africa today use his laptops for training or personal use. The laptops and tablets help them do their homework, write papers, and get through university. With these devices, the students can also access and use notes provided in PDF format, etc. Read more here -

www.developafrica.org/empowering-education-youths-africa-through-recycled-laptops



JMA Solutions

Since 2013, JMA Solutions has been a long-time partner with Develop Africa – providing funds each year towards our programs such as Microfinance and orphan care.



Develop Africa is designated and rated as an “effective” and “**top-ranked**” organization on www.GlobalGiving.org.



Develop Africa

Future Plans and Strategies

In 2024, we plan to continue with the organization's overall vision, focusing on the following three areas.

Empowerment through Education



Vocational Training



Health and Well-Being



How to Get Involved

Corporate Partnerships, Business Giving And Employee Donations

We invite you to consider sponsoring or partnering with Develop Africa. Business and organizational partnerships are a great way to boost aid to Africa. According to American Charities and Project ROI, a well-designed corporate social responsibility program can increase employee engagement by up to 7.5%, increase employee productivity by 13%, reduce employee turnover by 50%, and increase revenue by as much as 20%. That's a fantastic difference a partnership can make. Check out the partnerships with Develop Africa that are already having fun and making a difference.

Supporting a nonprofit is a great way:

- Elevate your business or organization's profile by showing social responsibility
- Develop excellent public relations.
- Increase business sales, impact, and visibility through increased brand awareness.
- Build a positive work environment through community involvement and charitable giving.
- Provide tremendous opportunities for fun, morale-boosting activities that give staff and customers the "feel-good factor."



Additionally, supporting a nonprofit provides tremendous opportunities for fun, morale-boosting activities that give staff and customers the "feel-good."

Donor / Partner Opportunities

There are several ways you can help – from small, one-off activities to long-term, mutually beneficial partnerships. Here are a few current opportunities:

- Make Develop Africa your company/organization 'Charity of the Year,' and get all your staff involved in campaigning and fundraising activities.
- Sponsor an African child's education or apprenticeship.
- Pay for a village school to be built / Equip a computer lab
- Donate sports or school equipment.
- Pay for shipping of books, school supplies, and computers.
- Provide seed money for small businesses; sponsor microfinance projects.
- Set up an Employer's Matching Gift program. Develop Africa is a tax-exempt charitable organization eligible to receive Matching Gifts. Some companies will provide a 100% match, doubling the value of your gift. Applying for a Corporate Matching Gift is easy. Some corporate intranet sites allow employees to use it directly online. Others provide forms that can be printed out and mailed. Check with your HR department if you can't find the link on your company web.



Volunteer Information

Please fill out this form to tell us about your skills and availability. We will contact you as needed. We understand that your availability will vary from time to time. <https://bit.ly/da-vol>

Recognition and Appreciation

The Kiwanis K-Kids from Weathersfield Elementary in Thousand Oaks, CA collected and donated 2001 pencils for students in Sierra Leone.



After reading an article in class about helping others, Nola was motivated to take action herself! Nola enlisted the help of her younger sister, Fallon, and the rest of her family. They did a school supply collection within their homeroom classes. The students in their classes were happy to contribute to this great cause too!

The University of Hartford and the Women's Advancement Initiative in West Hartford, CT collected 8 boxes of school supplies for students in need in Sierra Leone.



Douglas held a school supply drive for his Eagle Scout Project and collected 13 boxes of school supplies for students in Sierra Leone.

Sophia, a student from Long Island, NY, collected school supplies at her school for students in Sierra Leone.





DevelopAfrica

Contact Information

Donor support empowers Develop Africa to create positive, lasting change in the lives of individuals and communities. We're excited to share how, with your help, we support health and well-being in the most vulnerable areas, making a meaningful impact every day.



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www.Linktr.ee/developafrica